

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	§	
Valentin Kramer et al.	§	Priority Application: DE 100 61 9363.3
	§	
Serial No.: N/A	§	Priority Date: December 13, 2000
	§	
Filed: Herewith	§	Group Art Unit: Unknown
	§	
For: ePTFE PRODUCT FOR MEDICAL APPLICATIONS	§	Examiner: Unknown
	§	

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before "Field of the Invention" insert:

--This application claims the benefit of German Patent Application No. 100 61 936.3 filed on December 13, 2000, the entire contents of which are incorporated by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

4. (once amended) An article as described in claim 3, wherein the smaller sizes are in the range from 4 to 6 microns and the pores for the larger pore size distribution are in the range from 25 to 35 microns.

5. (once amended) An article as described in claim 4, wherein the smaller pore sizes are around 5 microns and the pores for the larger pore size distribution are around 30 microns.
6. (one amended) An article described in claim 1, that is configured into a tube.
8. (once amended) An article as described in claim 1, that is configured into a sheet.
12. (once amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the small pore size is in the range from 3 to 8 microns and the large pore size is in the range from 25 to 40 microns.
13. (once amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the small pore size is in the range from 4 to 6 microns and the large pore size is in the range from 25 to 35 microns.
14. (once amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein the small pore size is around 5 microns and the large pore size is around 30 microns.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to claim benefit from German Patent Application No. 100 61 936.3.

Claims 1-14 remain in the application. Claims 4-6, 8, and 12-14 have been amended from a formal standpoint in accordance with the U.S. rules of practice to remove multiple dependency and not for reasons relating to patentability. The filing fee has been calculated according to the above-amendments.

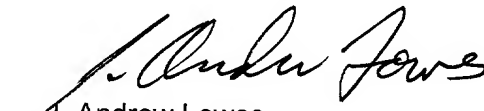
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding the amendments, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

PATENT/ DOCKET NO. 31567.3
CUSTOMER NO. 27683

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the papers submitted herewith or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Andrew Lowes
Registration No. 40,706

Date: 12/12/01
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202-3789
Telephone: 214/651-5627
Facsimile: 214/651-5940
File: 31567.3

D-968634.1

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL828065330 US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 12/12/01

This paper and fee are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Post Office to Addressee service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Printed Name



Signature of person mailing paper and fee

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. (once amended) An article as described in claim 3 [one of the preceding claims], wherein the smaller sizes are in the range from 4 to 6 microns and the pores for the larger pore size distribution are in the range from 25 to 35 microns.
5. (once amended) An article as described in claim 4 [one of the preceding the claims], wherein the smaller pore sizes are around 5 microns and the pores for the larger pore size distribution are around 30 microns.
6. (one amended) An article described in claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], that is configured into a tube.
8. (once amended) An article as described in claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], that is configured into a sheet.
12. (once amended) The method according to claim [10 or] 11, wherein the small pore size is in the range from 3 to 8 microns and the large pore size is in the range from 25 to 40 microns.
13. (once amended) The method according to [one of the claims 10 to] claim 12, wherein the small pore size is in the range from 4 to 6 microns and the large pore size is in the range from 25 to 35 microns.
14. (once amended) The method according to [one of the claims 10 to] claim 13, wherein the small pore size is around 5 microns and the large pore size is around 30 microns.